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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-fourth session
Item 39 of the provisional agenda*
SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO
PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR
RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 30 August 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit a copy of the Declaration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia concerning the forthcoming Parliamentary elections to be held in Georgia, on 31 October 1999.

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under item 39 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Peter CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Declaration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, issued on 27 August 1999

Referring to the forthcoming Parliamentary elections of Georgia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is authorized to declare the following:

"According to President's Decree N949 of 4 August 1999, regular elections for the Parliament of Georgia are set for 31 October 1999.

"Being desirous to strengthen the legal state, democratic social order and civil society, Georgia guarantees the citizens of Georgia the right to vote on the basis of free, universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

"The Constitution and legislation of Georgia, in full conformity with the principles of international law, provide for the citizens of Georgia immediate exercise of both active and passive electoral rights.

"According to article 49 of the Constitution of Georgia, 150 members of Parliament shall be elected by a proportional system for a term of four years, and 85 members by a majority system for a period of four years. In accordance with the organic law of Georgia on Parliamentary elections, the term of office of the members of the Parliament elected from Abkhazia, one of the territorial entities of Georgia during the Parliamentary elections of 1992 and still holding membership in the Parliament up to 1 October 1999, is prolonged until the full restoration of jurisdiction of Georgia over Abkhazia and until the creation of favourable conditions for Parliamentary elections in that region.

"According to the organic law of Georgia on Parliamentary elections, the lists of the political parties shall be filed with the Central Election Commission of Georgia no later that 36 days prior to the elections, that is, up to 25 September. The same term is stipulated for filing candidates for the membership of Parliament in the polling districts.

"The registration of the lists of political parties and of the candidates for membership of Parliament shall be finished no later than 25 days prior to the election, that is, by 6 October.

"Georgia welcomes and provides conditions for the participation of foreign and local observers in the pre-election campaign, as well as in the voting process. According to the organic law of Georgia on Parliamentary elections, observers from different States and international organizations shall be admitted, together with other persons, to the meetings of election commissions and to the polling stations.

"In order to monitor the Parliamentary elections, the rule and the accreditation procedure of foreign observers shall be stipulated by the instruction approved by the Central Election Commission of Georgia."